

# MEETING MINUTES

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National Advisory Committee – 2021 Spring Virtual Meeting  
U.S. Census Bureau  
May 6 - 7, 2021  
11:00am - 5:00pm ET

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## Advisory Committee Members:

*Organized by last name*

Full Name	Last Name	Role	Attendance
James	Tucker	Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cherokee	Bradley	Vice-Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Gina	Adams	Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Nicole	Borromeo	Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Charles	Bruner	Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Richard	Calvin Chang	Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Inderdeep	Chatrath	Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Brad	Cole	Member	<input type="checkbox"/>
D’Lane	R. Compton	Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Julio	Guity-Guevara	Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Florencia	Gutierrez	Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Carol	Hafford	Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Iheoma	U. Iruka	Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Carla	Kelly	Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Daniel	T. Lichter	Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Thomas	Saenz	Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Jeri	Green	Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
S. Karthick	Ramakrishnan	Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rosemary	Rodriguez	Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Helen	Samhan	Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Brisa	N. Sanchez	Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Seth	Sanders	Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
John	Sandoval	Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Luc	El-Art Severe	Member	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chiling	Tong	Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Census Bureau Staff:

Full Name	Last Name	Presenter	Attendance
Helen	Abraham	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Shana	Banks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Karen	Battle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Jason	Devine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Jason	Fields	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Albert	E. Fontenot Jr.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tony	Ellis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Michael B.	Hawes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cynthia Davis	Hollingsworth	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ron	Jarmin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nicholas	Jones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Timothy	Kennel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Kimberly	Leonard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Timothy	Olson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Beverly	Marie Pratt	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Robert	Chase Sawyer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hyon	B. Shin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Matthew	Spence	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Deb	Stempowski	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Michael	Thieme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
James	Whitehorne	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Call to Order:

- Day 1: The meeting was called to order on 11 a.m., May 6, by Karen Battle, Designated Federal Officer (DFO) for the National Advisory Committee (NAC).
- Day 2: The meeting reconvened 11 a.m., May 7, by Karen Battle, DFO for NAC.

## Topics Discussed:

- 2020 Census Operational Review**
  - Synopsis: The presentation addressed aspects that challenged the Decennial and Field Directorates during pre/post pandemic 2020 Decennial Operations. At the conclusion of the Census Bureau SME presentation, the NAC discussion included reflections on the integrity of data processing/transparency and the importance of the Census Bureau being independent from political influence.
  - Recommendations received: The Committee offered 14 recommendations on this topic.
- Post Data Collection Processing Status and 2020 Census Data Quality**
  - Synopsis: The Census SME presentation offered a status update on the post data collection processing and data quality. This included highlights on apportionment and redistricting – and the processes associated with each (the Census Edited File, the Microdata Detail File, Tabulation, and Data Release). The other Census SME presentation addressed data quality, and the multilayered approach the Census Bureau used for data quality (data quality executive guidance group, engagement of external expert groups, and expanded tools and metrics). At the conclusion of the Census Bureau SME presentations,

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the NAC discussion included reflections on the impacts post-data collection processing, the microdata detail file, the redistricting release, and the 2020 Census Data Quality had on various stakeholder groups.

- Recommendations received: The Committee offered 13 recommendations on this topic.
- **Post-Enumeration Survey Overview**
  - Synopsis: The Census SME presentation included an introduction to Census quality, 2020 Post-Enumeration Survey (PES) Design, and Schedule and Reports. At the conclusion of the Census Bureau SME presentation the NAC discussion included reflections on the importance on post-enumeration survey, the undercount of minority status, thoughts on adding other groups of importance to PES, and the lessons learned from effect of COVID on the undercount.
  - Recommendations received: The Committee offered 6 recommendations on this topic.
- **Redistricting and Voting Rights Data Office**
  - Synopsis: The Census SME presentation included an overview of the 2020 Census redistricting data program (block boundary suggestion project, voting district project, data delivery, collection of post-2020 census redistricting plans, and evaluation of the 2020 RDP – view from the states). At the conclusion of the Census Bureau SME presentation the NAC discussion included reflections on the voting district project, the release of the geographic support products, ambiguity regarding the P.L. 94-171 legacy format summary file, the application of differential privacy to the P.L. 94-171 redistricting data, and the September 2021 deadline for the release of data.
  - Recommendations received: The Committee offered 4 recommendations on this topic.
- **2020 Census Data Products**
  - Synopsis: The Census SME presentation included an overview of the schedule for releasing products beyond redistricting, a discussion on disclosure avoidance approaches utilizing differential privacy, an overview of the demographic and housing characteristics about local communities, and key developments. At the conclusion of the Census Bureau SME presentation, the NAC presentation included a robust discussion on disclosure avoidance modernization, redistricting file, demographic profile, and demographic and housing characteristics file.
  - Recommendations received: The Committee offered 3 recommendations on this topic.
- **The Experimental Household Pulse Survey**
  - Synopsis: The presentation highlighted the development, content, analyses, and ongoing plans for the Household Pulse Survey (HPS). Key findings from the HPS were presented as well as key cautions. Finally, as the coronavirus pandemic continues, the future of the HPS and potential adaptation to the survey will be presented. The Census SME presentation included an overview of the development of the household pulse survey, the experimental rapid response survey, platform Qualtrics, invitation to take the online survey, project timeline, and Federal Government partners. At the conclusion of the Census Bureau SME presentation, the NAC conversation included a discussion on why the response rates were so low, the takeaways on non-response bias, asked if the current geography coverage was adequate, and what other regions should be covered.
  - Recommendations received: The Committee offered 10 recommendations on this topic
- **Community Resilience Estimates**
  - Synopsis: The Community Resilience Estimates (CRE) were developed in response to the onset of the pandemic. Using survey and administrative data already on hand, the Census Bureau developed the estimates that provide a measure of a community's ability to absorb and endure impacts from a disaster such as a flood, hurricane, or a pandemic. The estimates use 11 risk factors to model resilience and are unique because they are based on internal microdata, some down to the Census Tract level, that allow for individual flags to be applied on each characteristic and for comparisons across geographies. At the conclusion of the Census Bureau SME presentation, the NAC conversation included a discussion on the proposed enhancements planned for the 2021 release, limitations noted in the presentation, and the prospects for setting up a working group to engage a variety of stakeholders.
  - Recommendations received: The Committee offered 3 recommendations on this topic.

**Agenda:**

- See attachment

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**Action Items / Information Requests / Follow up:**

- Proposed date for special meeting to discuss Differential Privacy: May 27, 2021
- There are several hold-over recommendations from this meeting that will be deliberated at the May 27 meeting.

**Adjournment:**

- Day 1: The meeting was adjourned 2:40 p.m., Thursday, May 6, by Karen Battle. Committee deliberations continued offline until 5:30 p.m.
- Day 2: The Committee deliberated from 2:45 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. to discuss and formulate proposed recommendations. The meeting reconvened at 4:30 p.m. so that the Committee could present and vote on the 2021 NAC Spring Meeting recommendations. The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m. by Karen Battle, DFO, NAC, Census Bureau

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Teleconference Number: 800-857-7003; Passcode: 1129510

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Thursday, May 6, 2021

Day 1 Location: [Virtual Meeting](#)

**11:00 AM** | *Opening Remarks*

Presenter: Karen Battle, Designated Federal Officer, National Advisory Committee

*Chair Remarks*

Presenter: James Tucker, Chair, National Advisory Committee

*Executive Remarks*

Presenter: Ron Jarmin, Acting Director, U.S. Census Bureau

**11:45 AM** | *2020 Census Operational Review*

Presenters: Albert E. Fontenot, Jr., Associate Director for Decennial Census Programs  
Timothy Olson, Associate Director for Field Operations

NAC Discussant: Jeri Green and Committee Discussion

**12:45 PM** | *\*BREAK\**

**12:55 PM** | *Post Data Collection Processing Status and 2020 Census Data Quality*

Presenters: Michael Thieme, Assistant Director for Decennial Census Programs,  
Systems and Contracts  
Deb Stempowski, Assistant Director for Decennial Programs,  
Operations and Schedule Management

NAC Discussant: Thomas Saenz and Committee Discussion

**1:55 PM** | *Post-Enumeration Survey Overview*

Presenter: Timothy Kennel, Decennial Statistical Studies Division

NAC Discussant: Seth Sanders and Committee Discussion

**2:40 PM** | *\*BREAK\**

**2:50 PM** | *NAC Discussion and Formulation of Recommendations*

Moderator: James Tucker, Chair, National Advisory Committee

**5:00 PM** | *Meeting Adjourned*

Presenter: Karen Battle, Designated Federal Officer

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Friday, May 7, 2021

Day 2 Location: [Virtual Meeting](#)

**11:00 AM** *Opening Remarks*

Presenter: Karen Battle, Designated Federal Officer, National Advisory Committee

*Chair Remarks*

Presenter: James Tucker, Chair, National Advisory Committee

**11:10 AM** *Redistricting and Voting Rights Data Office*

Presenter: James Whitehorne, Redistricting Data Program

NAC Discussants: S. Karthick Ramakrishnan, James Tucker and Committee Discussion

**11:55 AM** *Public Comments*

**12:15 PM** *2020 Census Data Products*

Presenters: Jason Devine, Population Division

Nicholas Jones, Population Division

NAC Discussant: Nicole Borromeo and Committee Discussion

**1:00 PM** *\*BREAK\**

**1:10 PM** *The Experimental Household Pulse Survey*

Presenter: Jason Fields, Social, Economic, and Housing Statistics Division

Hyon B. Shin, Social, Economic, and Housing Statistics Division

NAC Discussant: John Sandoval and Committee Discussion

**1:50 PM** *Community Resilience Estimates*

Presenter: Robert Chase Sawyer, Social, Economic, and Housing Statistics Division

NAC Discussants: Cherokee Bradley, Inderdeep Chatrath and Committee Discussion

**2:35 PM** *\*BREAK\**

**2:45 PM** *NAC Discussion and Formulation of Recommendations*

Moderator: James Tucker, Chair, National Advisory Committee

**4:30 PM** *Presentation of 2021 NAC Spring Virtual Meeting Recommendations*

Presenter: James Tucker, Chair, National Advisory Committee

**5:00 PM** *Meeting Adjourned*

Presenter: Karen Battle, Designated Federal Officer